

I'd just like to comment briefly on the current rules regarding prerecorded solicitations and nonprofit or tax exempt entities.

Too many nonprofit entities are created for and/or begin to take advantage of the nonprofit exemption for these types of calls. Debt consolidation is a prime example. Lighthouse Credit Foundation for example now claims to be making outbound telephone calls for the purpose of debt consolidation; because they are a nonprofit and the rules state nonprofits can legally use this type of solicitation, it is difficult to get them to stop. Taking an action against them in court would not be an option most citizens would chose; it would take considerable resources to prove that a large percentage of the monies they are soliciting actually go to a for-profit agency and therefore the solicitations are commercial in nature.

I believe we will see more and more of these nonprofit agencies pop up to take advantage of what I consider is a serious loophole in the Commission's rules. Prerecorded solicitations should be disallowed for any private sector entity to use, or heavier restrictions regarding their use should be put into place. Washington's law regarding these devices is simpler; if they are used for commercial purpose they are illegal. Nonprofits and tax-exempt entities are also required to obey this law; there are no exemptions. Thank you for your consideration of this complaint.

Sincerely,

Micheal F. Fox